



HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Emma Curtis, 14 Everlanes Close, Milborne Port, SHERBORNE, DT9 5FT

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AGENDA

Draft Minutes of Henstridge Parish Council's Open Spaces Committee on Monday 13th July at 7.00pm.

Present: Carolyn Nichols (Chair), David Nichols, Ken Courtenay, Barry Howlett, and John Graham

Clerk: Emma Curtis

1. Apologies for Absence:

None received

2. Declarations of Interest:

None received

3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th February 2020 to be signed by the Chair at a later date:

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the minutes as presented.

4. Ranger Scheme: To receive an update on the Ranger Scheme and approve its continuance: The Clerk provided an update on the financial position regarding budget versus spend. The Clerk and Carolyn Nichols confirmed they were happy with the work conducted by the Ranger and both recommended the scheme continue.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to continue use of the Ranger Scheme

5. Allotments: To receive a report from the Parish Council allotments representative, consider the formation of an allotments association and the requirement for visual records and inventory and a new club hut:

Barry Howlett confirmed that the new water troughs had been installed and that all but one allotment was now let. Barry stated that a couple hadn't been cultivated yet this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic and that the Clerk was chasing the tenants to find out their intentions. Barry reported that the recent fire at the allotments was likely due to arson but that the community had come together and helped with offering a replacement shed and tools. Barry confirmed that there was still interest from tenants in an allotments association. Carolyn Nichols commented it may be a good idea for plot holders to take a photo of their sheds and tools inside, and an added advantage of forming an association would be insurance cover. Club hut designs and finance were considered by Councillors and the Clerk suggested she contact other parishes for ideas and feedback on allotment associations and club huts. To conclude, the Clerk confirmed that a formal letter to Hastoe MD had been sent.

6. Talking Bench: To re-establish Talking Bench project in the recreation ground:

Carolyn Nichols confirmed that she would reinstate this project now that lockdown restrictions were easing and start discussing requirements with local forges.

7. Cemetery Management System: To receive an update on Cemetery Management Systems The Clerk confirmed she had requested another online demo but hadn't received a response from the company, likely due to Covid-19. The Clerk confirmed she would chase this up.

8. Oak Vale Wood: To consider drainage project at Oak Vale Woods

Drainage improvements at Oak Vale Woods were considered. Ken Courtenay stated the Council needed to consider the outflow of water and how it would be soaked up or drained off. It was agreed to request a meeting with SSDC on site to discuss options.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed for the Clerk to arrange a meeting with SSDC at Oak Vale Woods to discuss the project

9. Play Area: To receive play area update and proposals and designs for new play area
The Clerk reported that she and Carolyn Nichols had met a few companies on site to discuss new play designs and proposals for consideration by Council. To date, no proposals had been submitted and further meetings have been arranged for the coming weeks.

10. Tree Planting: To consider options for tree planting in the parish
The Clerk confirmed that a meeting with Phil Poulton from SSDC would be taking place in August to consider planting areas within the parish. Ken Courtenay suggested the field adjacent to the allotments may be a good site for planting but that as the field was leased the current agricultural lease required review. David Nichols reported that a previous Councillor had drawn up a plan for the allotments which included this field; the Clerk stated she would find a copy of the plan. Barry Howlett requested that the allotments be considered for planting apple trees.

11. Bin: To approve the purchase of a new bin for the recreation ground
Councillors considered quotes for the purchase of a new bin and it was felt they were expensive. David Nichols suggested the Clerk contact SSDC to see if they could help with the purchase of a suitable bin.

12. Lawnmower: To approve the purchase of a new lawnmower for Parish Council Handyman
The Clerk confirmed that the budget had £500 allocated for equipment and stated that prices ranged from £250 - £500. It was agreed that the Clerk, David Nichols and the Handyman would look at various options for a suitable mower up to the maximum of £500.

13. To receive reports from the Clerk on: Allotments, Recreation Ground, Burial Ground, Fly Tipping, Highways issues and grit bins
The Clerk reported that all areas within the recreation ground had now been reopened and that suitable Covid-19 risk assessments and signage had been erected. The Clerk confirmed that equipment was being disinfected weekly during routine inspections and that a hand sanitiser unit was being erected outside the village hall.

14. Date of the next meeting: It was confirmed the next meeting would take place in September.



Emma Curtis
Parish Clerk